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NIGERIA

HANDBOOK & REVIEW

The Nigerian Renaissance

Investment Opportunities
in The New Economy

INDIANA
BLACK EXPO
(USA) SPECIAL
EDITION

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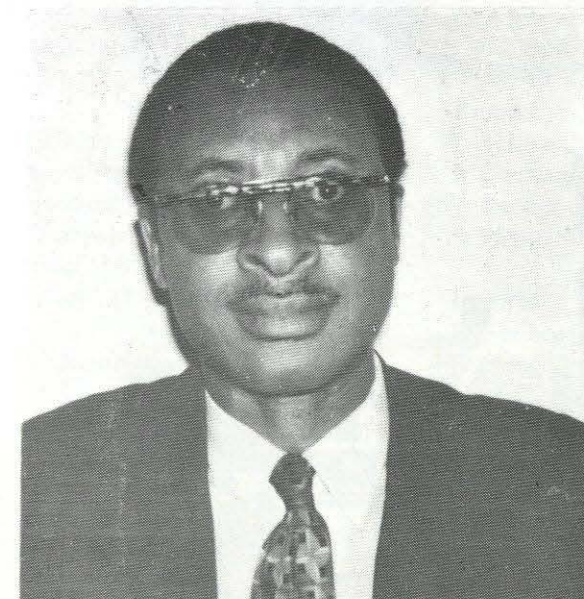
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Publisher's Pitch

TESTING FOR OUR PLACE IN HISTORY



On May 29 and 30th in the Jubilee year of Jesus Christ, Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo rolled out the drums and cymbals to celebrate one year of democracy.

It has been one year of hiccups and learning, the release of long heldback frustrations at a tradition of injustice and intimidation under military rule. Out of this experience hope has come aboard in good measure. What is comforting is that hope exists almost independent of those in leadership and the quality of leadership. Hope exists because Nigerians have come to detest military rule with a passion and have begun to come to terms with the fact that they literally hold their future in their own hands no matter who is President.

The renewal process of the last year has

produced a privatisation agenda that should free Nigeria from the trap of poor infrastructure. Other reform programmes have been initiated which promise a more enabling environment for private sector led growth.

As the environment for trade and investment becomes more attractive both the public and private sectors have become encouraged to promote abroad the opportunities that abound in Nigeria. Among the sectors favoured by investors have been the traditional oil and gas sector, especially the gas sub-sector in which Nigeria has some of the world's biggest reserves and currently witnesses the wasteful flaring of significant volumes of associated gas in crude oil production. The area of solid minerals production which was always talked about in view of the huge deposits of varied minerals, is finally receiving good policy attention. Tourism, the agro-allied sector, information and communication technology areas and the food and beverages sectors round up some of the key sectors in focus.

These sectors will again be prominent feature at the 2000 Indiana Black Expo holding in July 2000 at the Convention Centre in Indianapolis. The Indiana Black Expo in its 30th anniversary fair will have the sub-theme: "The Nigerian Renaissance" in focus. It should be a thrill for the thousands of visitors to the Expo to see the new Nigeria on display

Pat Utomi